



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re patent application of:

Daniel P. Sanders et al.

Serial No. 10/689,804

Filed October 20, 2003

**SYSTEM FOR KNOWLEDGE  
TRANSFER IN A GROUP SETTING**

)  
) Before the Examiner

)  
) Group Art Unit

Date of Deposit: December 23, 2003  
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date indicated above.

  
William F. Bahret, Reg. No. 31,087

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Submitted herewith on the attached form, entitled Information Disclosure Statement by Applicant, is a list of documents of which Applicants are aware which they believe may be material to the examination of this application, and in respect of which there may be a duty to disclose in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.56. In accordance with the Official Gazette notice of August 5, 2003 concerning information disclosure statements in patent applications filed after June 30, 2003, copies of the cited U.S. patents and the cited U.S. patent application publication are not submitted herewith.<sup>1</sup> Copies of the other cited references are enclosed.

In addition, Applicants' undersigned attorney is informed that a version of a groupware system named DEBBIE<sup>2</sup> having different layers for student and teacher work, and meeting the description of independent claim 42 in the present application, was tested in a controlled environment – computer labs at DePauw University – in college courses in the fall of 2000 (1 course), spring of 2001 (1 course), fall of 2001 (2 courses), spring of 2002 (1 course) and fall of 2002 (10 courses). Only the course instructors and students were permitted access to the

<sup>1</sup> 1273 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 55 (August 5, 2003).

<sup>2</sup> DEBBIE is an acronym for DePauw Electronic Black Board for Interactive Education.

system. Performance of the system during each course was monitored by co-inventor David Berque, a DePauw professor, who retained control over the system throughout this time period. Feedback through surveys and other reports was solicited and used to verify the usability and performance of the system.

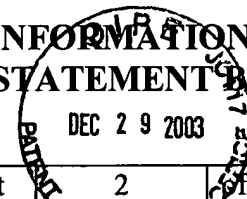
Also according to Dr. Berque, the version of DEBBIE referenced above was demonstrated on separate occasions for the following invited groups during the time period from March 2001 to April 2002: 1) DePauw's Board of Visitors, 2) spouses of DePauw's Board of Trustees, 3) the External Advisory Board for DePauw's Management Fellows Program, 4) Park Tudor High School Technology Club, 5) a group of admissions counselors from certain high schools, 6) DePauw's Mathematics Department faculty, 7) students in DePauw's Information Technology Associates Honors Program, and 8) a group from the University of Illinois. All such demonstrations were in the above-referenced computer labs at DePauw and were conducted under the control and supervision of Dr. Berque. There was no public use of the system, nor any offer to sell, and no handouts were provided. All the activity described above was non-commercial.

This statement is being filed before the first Office Action on the merits, and therefore no fee is believed to be due. If any fee is due, however, the Patent and Trademark Office is authorized to charge any such fee except for an issue fee to Deposit Account No. 50-2176.

Respectfully submitted,

By   
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Indianapolis, Indiana 46204  
(317) 423-2300



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|---|---|---|-------------------------------|--------------------------|
| <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE<br/>STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b><br> |   |   | <b>Application Number</b>     | 10/689,804               |
|   |   |   | <b>Filing Date</b>            | 10/20/2003               |
|   |   |   | <b>First Named Inventor</b>   | Daniel P. Sanders et al. |
|   |   |   | <b>Art Unit</b>               |                          |
|   |   |   | <b>Examiner Name</b>          |                          |
| <b>Sheet</b>  | 2 | 3 | <b>Attorney Docket Number</b> | 137-3                    |

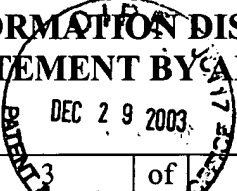
| U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS             |                          |                               |                                |  |  |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|--|--|
| Examiner<br>Initials <sup>*</sup> | Cite<br>No. <sup>1</sup> | Document Number               | Publication Date<br>MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or<br>Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant<br>Passages or Relevant Figures Appear |
|                                   |                          | Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> |                                |  |  |
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| FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS |                          |  |                                |  |   |                |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|--|--------------------------------|--|---|----------------|
| Examiner<br>Initials     | Cite<br>No. <sup>1</sup> | Foreign Patent Document  | Publication Date<br>MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or<br>Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines,<br>Where Relevant Passages or<br>Relevant Figures Appear | T <sup>6</sup> |
|                          |                          | Country Code <sup>3</sup> -Number <sup>4</sup> -Kind Code <sup>5</sup> |                                |  |   |                |
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| <b>Examiner<br/>Signature</b> |  | <b>Date<br/>Considered</b> |  |
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<sup>\*</sup> EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant

<sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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|   |   |    | <b>Examiner Name</b>        |                               |       |
| <b>Sheet</b>  | 3 | of | 3                           | <b>Attorney Docket Number</b> | 137-3 |

| OTHER DOCUMENTS – NON-PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS |                       |  |                |
|---|-----------------------|--|----------------|
| Examiner Initials <sup>*</sup>                    | Cite No. <sup>1</sup> | Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published   | T <sup>2</sup> |
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|   |                       | D. Berque et al., "Changing Places: A Case Study in Adapting an Education Pen-based System for use at a Distance," <i>World Conference on Educational Multimedia, Hypermedia and Telecommunications</i> , Denver, Colorado, June 24-29, 2002 (6 pages).  |                |

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|--------------------|--|-----------------|--|
| Examiner Signature |  | Date Considered |  |
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